

# Questar to close some Rockies gas wells

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Questar Corp., the natural-gas producer and owner of Utah's only gas utility, will shut down production from some wells in the Rocky Mountains because of low prices. Its stock fell the most in almost seven months.

The closures will result in decreased output of about 32 million cubic feet a day, or about 1 billion cubic feet in October, the Salt Lake City-based company said. The actual output of the wells, which Questar owns with other companies, is about 70 million cubic feet a day.

Gas prices for next-day delivery have plunged 52 percent at the benchmark Henry Hub in Louisiana since Aug. 1, according to data compiled by Bloomberg News. Gas at the hub fell 9 cents, to \$4.02 per million British thermal units. The drop has prompted companies, including Chesapeake Energy Corp., to shut some production that hasn't been sold under forward contracts.

Questar shares fell \$3.35, or 4.1 percent, to \$77.85 Tuesday on the New York Stock Exchange. It was the biggest one-day drop since March 6.

Questar's overall gas production for the year will increase to 127-129 billion cubic feet, the company said, up from a previous estimate of 126-128 billion.